

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

NEA-09 /031 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JTRATTNER:AVW

APPROVED BY S/PRS:RLFUNSETH

S/S - REWOODS

----- 099875

O 102329Z FEB 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 29

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, H. A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS COVERAGE, FEBRUARY 10

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 2

SUMMARY: EARLY AFTERNOON WIRES LEAD WITH HAK'S ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL AND STATEMENT THAT U.S. READY TO TAKE OTHER APPROACHES TO A ME SETTLEMENT THAN HIS STEP-BY-STEP PLAN. GWERTZMAN AND CARTER EMPHASIZE EXPLORATORY NATURE OF TRIP WITH CARTER NOTING HAK'S CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM ABOUT CHANCES FOR AGREEMENT.

WIRES

1. AP - SCHWEID FROM JERUSALEM HAS HAK SAYING U. S. READY TO TAKE OTHER APPROACHES TO A SETTLEMENT THAN HIS STEP-BY-STEP PLAN. "WE ARE PREPARED TO EXPLORE MEANS AND OTHER FORUMS, IF NECESSARY"--- AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE ACCORDING TO SCHWEID TO GENEVA CONFERENCE. SAYS HAK THANKED RABIN  
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GOVERNMENT FOR ENDORSING HIS APPROACH BUT ADDED THE U.S.

"IS ESSENTIALLY COMMITTED TO RAPID PROGRESS" AND DOES NOT SUBSCRIBE TO ANY SPECIAL WAY OF ACHIEVING IT. SCHWEID SAYS U. S. OFFICIALS SAY UNLESS HAK CONCLUDES SITUATION IS HOPELESS, HE PLANS TO RETURN ME ABOUT MARCH 10 TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF AN ISRAELI SINAI WITHDRAWAL. SCHWEID QUOTES U.S. OFFICIALS THAT HAK RECOGNIZES ISRAELI NEED FOR CONCRETE CONCESSIONS FROM EGYPT IN EXCHANGE, TOWARD AN END TO POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC BELLIGERENCY. IN EARLIER STORY FROM FRANKFURT REFUELING STOP, SCHWEID CITES U. S. OFFICIALS THAT ALTERNATIVE TO HAK STEP-BY-STEP ROUTE IS RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE IN A CRISIS ATMOSPHERE. IN TAKE-OFF STORY FROM WASHINGTON, SCHWEID SAID HAKGOT WARM ENDORSEMENT FROM PRESIDENT FORD AS HE BEGAN TRIP.

2. UPI - DATELINE TEL AVIV (NO BYLINE) HAD HAK ARRIVING ISRAEL BEARING IDEAS FROM EGYPT AND SYRIA ON ME ACCORD AND SAYING HE IS PREPARED TO EXPLORE MEANS OTHER THAN HIS STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TO ACHIEVE RAPID PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE. QUOTES HAK, "I WELCOME THE DECISION THAT WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY BY THE ISRAELI CABINET ENDORSING MY STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. THE U. S., OF COURSE, IS NOT COMMITTED TO ANY PARTICULAR APPROACH. IT IS COMMITTED TO RAPID PROGRESS." UPI ADDS HAK DID NOT RULE OUT RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE, QUOTING HIM THAT "WE ARE PREPARED TO EXPLORE OTHER MEANS AND OTHER FORUMS IN ORDER TO MAKE RAPID PROGRESS." UPI SAYSTHAT SENIOR OFFICIAL ABOARD HAK PLANE STRESSED THAT SECRETARY AND PARTY WOULD HAVE NO CONTACT WITH PLO DURING THE TRIP. EARLIER UPI FRANKFURT DATELINE DESCRIBED CURRENT TRIP AS "DELICATE ME MISSION".

PRESS

1. NYT, PAGE 1 (GWERTZMAN) SAYS HAK DEPARTED WASHINGTON ON EXPLORATORY MISSION THAT HE HOPED WOULD LEAD TO FURTHER INTERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT NEXT MONTH. SEEKING TO DAMPEN ANY EXPECTATIONS THAT BREAKTHROUGH WILL OCCUR ON THIS TRIP, GWERTZMAN SAID MR. KISSINGER STATED IN DUTCH TV INTERVIEW THAT "THIS TRIP WILL NOT YIELD RESULTS". NOTING PRESIDENT'S PRESENCE AT ANDREWS DEPAR- UNCLASSIFIED

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TURE, GWERTZMAN SAYS THIS MAY BE HAK'S LAST ONE-MAN MEDI- ATION EFFORT IN THE ME AT LEAST FOR SOME TIME. PRESSURE HAS MOUNTED FOR RECONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE SAYS GWERTZMAN, AND HAK HAS INDICATED A NEW GENEVA MEETING SEEMS INEVITABLE WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF HIS"COMING SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY." GWERTZMAN WRITES TPAT HAK AND TOP ME AIDES HAVE CONTENTED A GENEVA CONFERENCE FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI ACCORD WOULD BE DOMINATED

BY A FEELING OF ACCOMMODATION, IMPROVING CHANCES IN GENEVA; BUT A CONFERENCE AFTER A FAILURE BY HAK, GWERTZMAN QUOTES OFFICIALS AS SAYING, WOULD BE MARKED "MOST LIKELY" WITH DISPUTES AND RANCOR, WITH ISSUES SUCH AS SEATING OF PLO SURE TO CAUSE OPEN POLEMICS. GWERTZMAN GOES ON TO SAY U.S. OFFICIALS BELIEVE MOSCOW WILL PROBABLY BE MORE COOPERATIVE IF ALL SIDES WERE DETERMINED TO PRESS

FOR FURTHER ACCORDS THAN IT WOULD IF STALMATE SEEMED LIKELY. GWERTZMAN SAYS ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, IN ADVANCE OF HAK ARRIVAL, HAS OFFERED FURTHER TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM SINAI CONDITIONAL ON EGYPTIAN POLITICAL CONCESSIONS. WHILE IN BONN, GWERTZMAN WRITES, HAK IS EXPECTED TO MEET NOT ONLY WITH WG LEADERS BUT ALSO WITH BITSIOS WHO WILL DISCUSS CYPRUS AND AMERICAN BASES IN GREECE. GWERTZMAN QUOTES OFFICIALS THAT HAK MIGHT EXTEND HIS TRIP ONE DAY TO MEET WITH SHAH IN ZURICH.

2. DAILY NEWS (CARTER) LEADS THAT HAK TRIP COULD BE "NEXT TO LAST RUN AT SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY IN THE ME." NOTING HAK DID NOT EXPECT ANY CONCRETE RESULTS FROM TRIP, CARTER SAYS HE WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC NONETHELESS ABOUT CHANCES FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL "ON A FOLLOW-UP TRIP HE PLANS FOR NEXT MONTH." CARTER SAYS HAK HAS SET HIMSELF A DEADLINE. HE HAS TOLD AIDES THAT IF THE COMING EFFORT FAILS TO PRODUCE A NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM, WITH A PROMISE OF PROGRESS ON SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN FRONTIERS, HE WILL ABANDON HIS STEP-BY-STEP PEACEMAKING. CARTER CONCLUDES THIS WOULD MEAN A RETURN TO GENEVA "WHERE THE ENTIRE PEACEMAKING PROCESS WOULD LIKELY FLOUNDER ON BOMBAST AND THE ISSUE OF PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION."

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ALSO NOTED: WASHINGTON POST, BEIRUT DATELINER BY HOAGLAND, SAYING HAK EMBARKED ON CURRENT TRIP "WITH SERIOUS PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI THAT WILL LEAD TO "AN EFFECTIVE TWO-THREE YEAR TRUCE BETWEEN THE MAIN ARAB ARMIES AND ISRAEL". HOAGLAND SAYS THIS ASSESSMENT COMES FROM PRIVATE COMMENTS OF SENIOR EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN OFFICIALS, INFORMED SYRIAN SOURCES AND REPORTS REACHING BEIRUT FROM ISRAEL. HOAGLAND SAYS DIPLOMATIC ANALYSTS HAVE CONCLUDED THAT HAK HAS ASSURED ISRAELIS AND HUSSEIN THAT QUESTION OF PLO PARTICIPATION IN SERIOUS PEACE TALKS WILL CONTINUE TO BE "FROZEN".

RADIO

1. CBS RADIO (2 P.M. NEWS FROM JERUSALEM, KALB) SAYS HAK

WAS QUICKLY INVITED TO WORKING DINNER WITH RABIN. KALB  
SAYS HAK AWARE OF "COOLER, TOUGHER" ISRAELI ATTITUDE THESE  
DAYS AND SAID AT AIRPORT ARRIVAL THAT STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH  
MAY NOT BE THE ONLY ONE AND THAT IF OTHER MEANS OR FORUMS  
COULD ALSO ACHIEVE RAPID PROGRESS, HE IS ALL FOR THEM.  
KALB SAYS THIS IS DIPLOMATIC SHORTHAND FOR HAK'S UNDER-  
STANDING OF GROWING ISRAELI SENTIMENT TO GIVE UP STEP-  
BY-STEP APPROACH AND THROW NEGOTIATION BACK INTO LAP

OF RECONVENED GENEVA CONFERENCE. "KISSINGER DOES NOT  
THINK THAT WOULD DO MUCH GOOD BECAUSE IT WOULD LIKELY  
ENSURE A STALEMATE. HE THINKS THAT IS MAYBE WHAT SOME  
ISRAELI OFFICIALS WANT, BUT BY NO MEANS ALL. THE SECRETARY  
IS STILL PRESSING FOR A DEAL BY THE END OF MARCH", KALB  
CONCLUDED. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE030323  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN PRS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRAVELING PRESS COVERAGE, FEBRUARY 10 FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** JERUSALEM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006